

TSMC-02-1054



April 16, 2004

To: Commissioner for Patents
P.O.Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Fr: George O. Saile, Reg. No. 19,572
28 Davis Avenue
Poughkeepsie, N.Y. 12603

Subject: | Serial No. 10/798,670 03/11/04 |
Hsin-Chen Tsai
A SCHEDULING SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR
AVOIDING LOW EQUIPMENT UTILIZATION
| _____ |

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Enclosed is Form PTO-1449, Information Disclosure Citation
In An Application.

The following Patents and/or Publications are submitted to
comply with the duty of disclosure under CFR 1.97-1.99 and
37 CFR 1.56.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being
deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class
mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents,
P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on April 26, 2004.

Stephen B. Ackerman, Reg.# 37761

Signature/Date

Stephen B. Ackerman 4/26/04

U.S. Patent 5,841,677 to Yang et al., "Method and Apparatus for Dispatching Lots in a Factory," discloses a lot dispatching method and apparatus for dispatching WIP lots in the manufacture of semiconductor integrated circuits.

U.S. Patent 5,040,123 to Barber et al., "Expert System Scheduler," discloses an expert system scheduler that uses heuristics developed by an experienced factory scheduler.

U.S. Patent 5,291,394 to Chapman, "Manufacturing Control and Capacity Planning System," describes a system and process for allowing virtual allocations of resources to lots to closely mimic actual allocations of resources to lots.

U.S. Patent 5,548,518 to Dietrich et al., "Allocation Method for Generating a Production Schedule," teaches a novel allocation method for generating a feasible production schedule.

U.S. Patent 5,737,728 to Sisley et al., "System for Resource Assignment and Scheduling," discloses a system and method for assigning and scheduling resource requests to resource providers using a modified "best-first" search technique that combines optimization, artificial intelligence, and constraint-processing to arrive at near-optimal assignment and scheduling solutions.

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U.S. Patent 5,818,716 to Chin et al., "Dynamic Lot Dispatching Required Turn Rate Factory Control System and Method of Operation Thereof," describes a dispatching algorithm for a semiconductor manufacturing fabrication plant with production to-order type operation.

Sincerely,

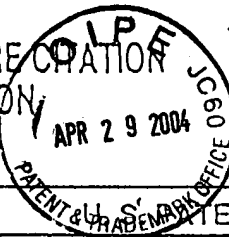
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephen B. Ackerman", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Stephen B. Ackerman,
Reg. No. 37761

Form PTO-1449

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE IN AN APPLICATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)



Docket Number (Continued)

TSMC-02-1054

Application Number

10/798,670

Applicant

Hsin-Chan Tsai

Filing Date

03/11/04

Group 1/1 Unit

PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	TITLE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	PLUNG DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	5841677	11/24/98	Yang et al.	364	569	5/21/97
	5040123	8/13/91	Barber et al.	364	468	9/8/89
	5291394	3/1/94	Chapman	364	401	6/1/90
	5548518	8/20/96	Dietrich et al.	364	468.06	5/31/94
	5737728	4/7/98	Sisley et al.	705	8	5/15/95
	5818716	10/6/98	Chin et al.	364	468.06	10/18/96

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
					YES	NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Portmox Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER

DATE COMPLETED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.